



**CTR CAREER PATH**  
(IDW/SW/AW/SG/EXW)

Cryptologic Technician “Collection” (CTR). CTRs specialize in the operation of signals collection, direction finding, and analysis systems at strategic and tactical levels; perform intelligence analysis; generate intelligence reports; deliver briefings to operational commanders ashore and afloat; and are knowledgeable on a variety of global communications technologies. Apprentice and Journeyman CTRs typically provide cryptologic support to National, Fleet (Surface/Subsurface/Air) or Special Warfare units in either a PCS or Direct Support status. Master level CTR’s are assigned to Staff duty, NIOC/FIOC, NCUs, Joint Commands, as Senior Enlisted Advisors/LCPO positions, or other important jobs related to the management of the CTR community.

<b>YEARS OF SERVICE</b>	<b>CAREER MILESTONES</b>	<b>AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE</b>	<b>COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS</b>	<b>SEA/ShORE FLOW</b>	<b>TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT</b>
26-30	CTRCM	20.6 Yrs	CMC	Not Defined	4 <sup>th</sup> CONUS Tour Billet: SEA, SEL, DEPT LCPO. Duty: NSW, Staff Duty, NPC, BUPERS, NCF, TYCOM, CID, NUMBERED FLT, NIOC and FIOC.
23-26	CTRCM CTRCS	20.6 Yrs 17.2	CMC,CSC	Not Defined	4 <sup>th</sup> OCONUS Tour Billet: DEPT LCPO, SEA, SEL. Duty: IA, GSA, NSW, Staff Duty, NPC, BUPERS, NCF, TYCOM, CID, NUMBERED FLT, ACRC, NIOC and FIOC. Qualification: SEA.
20-23	CTRCM CTRCS CTRC	20.6 Yrs 17.2 13.3	CWO,CMC,CSC	Not Defined	3 <sup>rd</sup> CONUS Tour Billet: SEA, SEL, DEPT LCPO, LCPO Afloat. Duty: IA, GSA, Staff Duty, NPC, BUPERS, NCF, TYCOM, CID, NUMBERED FLT, ACRC, NIOC and FIOC. Qualification: 9132, 9149, 9138, 9147 and SEA.
16-20	CTRCS CTRC CTR1	17.2 Yrs 13.3 7.5	LDO,CWO,OCS, MECCAP, MINSAP, MCSAP, CSC	Not Defined	3 <sup>rd</sup> OCONUS Tour Billet: DEPT LCPO, LCPO Afloat. Duty: IA, GSA, Staff Duty, NSW, ACRC, NPC, NCF, TYCOM,CID, NUMBERED FLT, NIOC, FIOC, ATG, Instructor. Qualification: 9132, 9149, 9138, 9105, 9147 and SEA.
<b>YEARS OF SERVICE</b>	<b>CAREER MILESTONES</b>	<b>AVERAGE TIME TO PROMOTE</b>	<b>COMMISSIONING OR OTHER SPECIAL PROGRAMS</b>	<b>SEA/ShORE FLOW</b>	<b>TYPICAL CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT</b>



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12-16	CTRCS CTRC CTR1	17.2 Yrs 13.3 7.5	RTC, Recruiting	Not Defined	2 <sup>nd</sup> CONUS Tour Billet: DEPT LCPO, LCPO Afloat. Duty: IA, GSA, RTC, Staff duty, NSW, ACRC, NPC, NCF, TYCOM, CID, NUMBERED FLT, NIOC, FIOC, Instructor, ATG, NSW-TIO Operator and Analyst. Qualification: 9132, 9149, 9138, 9105, 9147, 9134, 8296. Warfare Qualification to include NAC, MTS, ATS, System Supervisor and Watch Supervisor.
8-12	CTRC CTR1 CTR2	13.3 7.5 3.6	RTC, Recruiting	Not Defined	2 <sup>nd</sup> OCONUS Tour Billet: LCPO, LPO, ALPO. Duty: IA, NIOC, FIOC, PCS Afloat, Instructor, DIRSUP, Aircrew, NSW-TIO Operator and Analyst. Qualification: 9132, 9138, 9105, 9147, 9134, 8296, 9131, 9136, 9150, 9161. Warfare Qualification to include NAC, MTS, System Supervisor and Watch Supervisor.
1	CTR1 CTR2 CTR3	7.5 Yrs 3.6 1.5	STA-21, Internships: MECCAP, MINSAP, MCSAP(at least 4 years, but no more than 14 years of military service to apply), RTC, Recruiting	Not Defined	1 <sup>st</sup> CONUS Tour Billet: LPO, ALPO. Duty: IA, NIOC, NCU, FIOC, PCS Afloat, Instructor, DIRSUP, Aircrew, Tactical Information Operator (NSW-TIO) and Analyst. Qualification: 9105, 9138, 9147, 9134, 8296, 9131, 9136, 9150, 9161. Warfare Qualifications to include NAC, MTS, System Supervisor and Watch Supervisor.
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1-5	CTR2 CTR3	3.6 Yrs 1.5		Not Defined	1 <sup>st</sup> OCONUS Tour Billet: Operator, Analyst. Duty: NIOC, NCU, FIOC, PCS Afloat, Instructor, DIRSUP, Aircrew, System operator. Qualification: 9138, 9147, 9134, 8296, 9131, 9136, 9150, 9161. Warfare Qualification to include NAC and MTS.
1+/-	Accession Training, CTRSA, CTRSN, CTR3		Naval Academy, NROTC	Not Defined	Recruit Training and all schools or training events required to be completed prior to reporting to their first operational command.
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### Notes:

1. NSW. CTRs performing duties with Tactical Information Operator (TIO) or other billets augmenting Special Operations Command in support of Navy SEAL Teams, Special Boat Units and EOD are considered some of the most challenging jobs in the rating. This duty is extremely demanding and always hard to fill. Leadership opportunities may be limited due to the independent nature of the duties assigned.

2. DIRSUP. CTRs performing DIRSUP mission (Air, Surface and Subsurface) may accrue extensive sea time, yet may not attain a warfare qualification. This is due to personnel augmenting different class platforms during a DIRSUP tour, which may preclude them from qualifying ESWS/EAWS/SG. CTRs are expected to achieve the IDC Warfare Qualification while assigned to commands with an existing EIDWS program. These tours offer great leadership opportunities. CTR Aircrew and Subsurface tours are currently more difficult to fill.

3. PCS AFLOAT. CTRs afloat serve on a number of platforms at sea and around the world accruing extensive sea time with a requirement to earn the ESWS or EAWS Warfare Pins. PCS Afloat is the proving ground for many CTRs and is an indicator of technical prowess. Many have multiple NECs to include Systems and Afloat Collection Management.

4. IA/GSA. Large numbers of CTRs deployed on Individual Augmentations to Afghanistan and around the world. These deployments like NSW are considered as some of the toughest jobs in the rating with few leadership opportunities.

5. Advanced Signals Analysis (NEC 9149). These small numbers of billets are filled only by the best Signal Analysts. It is the premier technical NEC goal for Signals Analysts to achieve. Tour assignments are shore intensive. Sailors with this NEC will often be unable to maintain a OCONUS/CONUS rotation as dictated for their paygrade.

6. Opportunities to diversify between functional areas are sometimes limited. Sea/Shore rotation for CTRs is fulfilled by OCONUS/CONUS tours. Rotation for E9-E8 is 1 / 2; E7 and below is 2 / 1. Throughout the previous 2 years, Sailors in the E6 paygrade have not always been afforded the opportunity to maintain the 2/1 rotation due to a flux in billets at OCONUS and CONUS locations.



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7. Career enhancing tours are positions in which enlisted leaders develop subordinates and mentor them in proper career progression with emphasis on continuing technical prowess and leadership development. CTR leadership billets are Instructor duty CID or CID learning Sites, NIOD, NIOC, FIOC LPO/LCPO, Staff duty, DIRSUP Air, Surface and Subsurface LPO/LCPO and PCS Afloat LPO/LCPO with some RTC and Recruiting.

8. Reference NSGINST 1510.2A (CAREER ENLISTED CRYPTOLOGIC PROGRAM) For NSA/CSS Internships: MECCAP, MINSAP and MCSAP.